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AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

From 20th November, to 20th December, 1809.

THERE is generally so little business to be done in the farming line during the winter months, that they afford scarcely any thing for an agricultural report. The principal business in which the farmer can employ his servants and horses, is ploughing the lea grounds intended for spring crops.

The long continuance of dry weather has been extremely favourable for that purpose, and it is to be presumed the farmers have generally availed themselves of it, to lessen the quantity of spring labour, and to turn up the land designed for potatoes, flax and turnips before the frosts set in.

The wheat crops generally look well for the season, and it is supposed a larger quantity has been sown than usual.

The prices of that grain have not fluctuated much, and the complaints of its quality, and the flour produced from it, do not seem to abate.

Barley has advanced in price considerably, but oats and oat-meal have experienced little alteration.

Turnips in some places are a good crop, in others, they have failed much; and the writer of this report apprehends there is not the usual number of cattle feeding this season.

By an account from Carlow, it appears that wheat and barley have advanced a little; oats and potatoes were declining in price, and butter in little or no demand.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

MUCH as ill was to be feared from the blunders of Administration in their negociations with the United States of North America, few were prepared to anticipate so complete a rupture, and the rumoured return of the British negociator. But such is the progress from bad to worse, and such are the steps by which a great empire is reduced, when the management of their affairs falls into incapable hands. Added to our military miscarriages, our commerce is now likely to suffer again, from the effects of an ill-judged rupture with America. Direct war, or, more probably, a stricter enforcement of the non-intercourse, or, perhaps, also of the embargo system, will disturb the operations of trade, and open afresh the uncertain contingencies of speculation. Trade suffers most essentially by these fluctuations, and after a stoppage of this kind does not regain its former peaceable banks for a considerable length of time. American produce of all kinds has considerably advanced, and may be expected to advance still higher, although probably it may not reach the speculation-prices of last year. The losses then sustained may perhaps teach caution, and vessels occasionally violating the restrictions in America may afford a casual supply, though on terms enhanced by additional freight, insurance, agency, &c.

Most of the linens bought last year on speculation, still remain in the warehouses in London, unsold. The linen trade was materially deranged by this speculation. The prices of brown linens advanced so rapidly that the purchasers of white goods declined to buy on the high terms, and a very considerable portion of the present year's stock, especially of the finer kinds remains unsold. An unexampled stagnation in the linen trade has been the consequence, to the great injury of the country. If it afford any consolation, the speculators suffer with others, and there is little prospect of their golden dreams being realized. Coarse linens being the object of immediate demand, sell well.

Hopes are entertained that we may have a more adequate supply of flaxseed for next season, from the large quantities of Riga seed lately imported into London, and from some which may be likely to come from America through neutral ports, and also from the supply of seed saved in this country, of which, the quantity, especially in the hands of the small farmers, is stated to be pretty considerable. Doubts, however, are entertained, whether much advantage has arisen, on a fair average from the attempts to save seed, owing to the unfavourableness of last season, or even whether in common years, at the usual price of seed, the scheme of saving seed will be of national advantage. Some calculate that the amount of flax injured by the attempts to save the seed, was equal to the value of the seed saved.

A second seizure of 10,000 guineas which were exporting to the continent of Europe, for commercial purposes, is stated to have lately been made in the river Thames. The unfavourable rate of exchange with the Continent, of which one cause is the depreciation of our paper currency occasions these attempts. Guineas have generally disappeared and the few in circulation are at a premium, while the silver coinage is in a miserable state. In the year 1798, on an examination made at the tower in Lon-